

## Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 USIA-15 /030 W

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R 281635Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2318

UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 0185

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, XL, GY, RQ

SUBJECT: PUERTO RICAN REFEREE FOR FIRST CARIBBEAN BASKETBALL  
CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES FEB 14-23

1. JOHN YATES, MGR. GUYANA AGRICULTURAL COOP DEVELOPMENT BANK,  
AND OFFICIAL OF GUYANA AMATEUR BASKETBALL ASSN; CALLED ME YESTERDAY  
TO ENLIST SUPPORT FOR HIS EFFORT TO OBTAIN PUERTO RICAN REFEREE FOR  
FIRST CARIBBEAN BASKETBALL SERIES TO BE HOSTED BY GUYANA FROM  
FEB 14-23, 1976. HE SAID SIMILAR REQUEST BEING MADE TO MY VENEZUELAN  
COLLEAGUE, WHICH I HAVE CONFIRMED.

2. YATES SAID GABA DOES NOT RPT NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT FUNDS TO DEFRAY  
TRAVEL AND HONORARIA, BUT WILL PROVIDE ACCOMMODATIONS, MEALS AND  
LOCAL TRANSPORT. HE IS MAKING FORMAL REQUEST DIRECTLY TO DR.  
RAFAEL LOPEZ, PRESIDENT OF CENTRAL AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN ZONE,  
F.I.B.A. BOTH LOPEZ AND ABRAHAM PEREZ, EXEC. SECY. OF ZONE, ARE  
PUERTO RICANS.

3. I TOLD YATES USG HAD SOME TIME AGO BEEN FORCED TO ABANDON  
OFFICIAL FUNDING SUPPORT FOR SPORTS EVENTS OF THIS NATURE IN  
ORDER TO FOCUS LIMITED APPROPRIATIONS ON HIGHESTPRIORITY PROJECTS.  
I SAID I WAS SURE PUERTO RICANS WOULD WELCOME THIS INVITATION AND  
THAT SINCE COMMONWEALTH GOVT SEEKING CLOSER TIES WITH CARIBBEAN  
THERE WAS AT LEAST A POSSIBILITY THAT GCPR MIGHT ASSIST IN DEFRAYING  
TRAVEL EXPENSES. I SAID I WOULD INFORM STATE DEPT AND SUGGEST  
THAT DEPT ENCOURAGE PUERTO RICAN AUTHORITIES TO FIND MEANS TO  
SUPPORT THIS ENDEAVOR.

4. I ASKED YATES WHAT COUNTRIES WOULD BE REPRESENTED AND HE SAID  
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SO FAR GUYANA, JAMAICA, TRINIDAD/TOBAGO, BARBADOS AND SURINAM

WERE ENTRANTS, WITH HAITI AND CURACAO STILL PENDING. HE SAID  
CUB  
NS NOT RPT NOT PARTICIPATING NOR BEING ASKED TO PROVIDE  
REFEREES.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF ARA/CAR COULD SEE ITS  
WAY TO MAKING LOW-KEY TELEPHONE INQUIRY OF APPROPRIATE GCPR OFFICE  
RE STATUS OF RESPONSE TO GABA REQUEST, INDICATING AT SAME TIME  
OUR HOPE THAT BETWEEN FIBA ZONE AND GCPR MEANS CAN BE FOUND TO  
SEND AT LEAST ONE REFEREE.  
KREBS

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## Message Attributes

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